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## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS

positions as teacher, the details of sexual perversions, events leading up to marriage and an unhappy domestic life, are fully set forth.

His teachers and associates both professional and social speak highly of him. He was regarded as an ambitious man, of keen and observant mind, tending to philosophic and literary ideals. He kept a voluminous diary in which he expressed somewhat fully his hopes and fears, his plans and ideals. During the later years he became dissatisfied, morbid, suspicious. He ranked himself high among German literary men, conceived a hatred for government and social restraints, and practiced sexual perversions. After an enforced marriage, which necessitated removal to another village, he gradually grew away from friends and developed a morbid mental existence apart from the world of affairs about him. This phase of his life shows religious touches in which he compares himself with Christ. He finally came to believe that his life was ruined through his wife's tattling to her friends in the neighboring village, and decided to end it by putting out of the way all who knew her and her reports. The plan was a deliberate one, worked out in detail for every step and for every minute of the day and was frequently mentioned in a diary kept by the patient.

At the clinic he was diagnosed as a Paranoiac, but it is recognized that the exception of the women and children in the wholesale shooting shows an unusual characteristic for Paranoia. It is supposed that the paranoiac system became so widespread through frequent rehearsal that the motivation changed, and the scheme of justification for the deed necessitated the annihilation only of those men who he believed had held him in scorn, and of the children who might inherit his own defects. The study is an excellent analysis of a certain type of worry and its effects.

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A. H. SUTHERLAND.

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SOCIAL LAWS OF PENNSYLVANIA. By *Ward Bonsall*, member of the Allegheny County Bar. Published by the Associated Charities of Pittsburgh and the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, 1914. Pp. ix, 146. \$1.50.

Complaint is frequently made that social workers waste much valuable time through ignorance of the law. The complaint while just, seems in a fair way to be placed in the past tense, if we may judge from such a book as Mr. Bonsall's. Its purpose, in brief, is to present as concisely and untechnically as possible those statutes and the process of their enforcement, which bear upon the social relationships and conditions of families and persons which social workers are called upon to serve and deal with in their daily rounds. To be sure it is in no sense a "Handy Lawyer," designed to obviate recourse to competent legal advice. It is designed to offer the social worker just that familiarity with the commonwealth's resources in law which will enable him to walk wisely, and will direct him where to go when he needs expert technical guidance. Moreover, it is significant as an experiment in co-operation between two well known social agencies and a lawyer whose social services have already been distinguished.

## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS

The content of the book is distributed over a dozen special topics, the chief of which are Children, Desertion and Non-Support, Poor Law, Mental Defectives, Public Health, Criminal Law, Collection of Debts, Labor, Marriage, Divorce and Married Women, Decedents, Immigration and Naturalization, Liquors and Special Police. The chapter on Criminal Law covers a digest of crimes, alphabetically listed, a summary of the chief elements in criminal procedure, and sections on search warrants, extradition, and adult probation. The modernist suffers a distinct shock as he reads the statutes on, say, blasphemy or common scolds!

The method of presenting the mass of laws, amendments and court interpretations is clear and concise. Citations from statutes and cases accord with the general method followed by legal writers. The historical sweep of legal development in Pennsylvania is made clear by a valuable chronological list of statutes. And an intensive index manifold the serviceability of the volume.

Any criticism of so good a piece of work might seem gratuitous; but since the book may be adopted by other states as a model, it might be well to hint that wider margins and a more substantial binding would improve its life and looks. The typography is pleasing, with only here and there a slight lapse in proof-reading.

It is sincerely to be hoped that other lawyers may follow Mr. Bon-sall's lead. Social work will be immensely lightened, and will avoid many deadfalls with such competent legal guidance.

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